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HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

ENCOURAGING A DIPLOMATIC AND COLLABORATIVE RESOLUTION BETWEEN
THE UNITED STATES, PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA, JAPAN, AND
TAIWAN REGARDING DISPUTED ISLANDS IN THE EAST CHINA SEA.

WHEREAS, geopolitical tensions in the East China Sea between the United States, People's Republic of China, Japan, and the Republic of China, also known as Taiwan, have heightened over the territorial dispute of the Senkaku Islands, as known by Japan; or the Diaoyu Islands, as known by the People's Republic of China; or the Tiaoyutai Islands, as known by Taiwan; and

WHEREAS, these islands are rich in natural resources such as minerals, oil, gas, and fishing resources, making the control and development of these lands desirable for each country; and

WHEREAS, Republic of China President Ma Ying-jeou, proposed the East China Sea Peace Initiative at the opening ceremony of the sixtieth anniversary of the Treaty of Peace between the Republic of China and Japan, requesting all parties to:

- (1) Refrain from any antagonistic actions;
- (2) Put aside conflicts and not abandon dialogue;
- (3) Observe international law and resolve disputes through peaceful means;
- (4) Seek consensus on a code of conduct in the East China Sea; and
- (5) Establish a mechanism for cooperative exploration and development of the resources in the East China Sea; and

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WHEREAS, the Legislature supports and encourages a peaceful approach for a resolution regarding the disputed islands in the East China Sea; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-eighth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2015, the Senate concurring, that the United States, the People's Republic of China, Japan, and Taiwan are encouraged to take a long-term, diplomatic, collaborative, and peaceful approach for a resolution regarding the dispute of the islands in the East China Sea; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all four countries are requested to examine possible long-term mutual economic benefits rather than the short-term political gains of a contested sovereignty approach; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States, the Majority Leader of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the President of the People's Republic of China, the Prime Minister of Japan, and the President of the Republic of China.

OFFERED BY:

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